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ABSTRACT

The 18 chapters of this book document persistent themes in the struggle for human freedom in the United States since the late nineteenth century, as exemplified in the scholarship and actions of people of color and their white supporters. One theme is that the margins of U.S. society, to which people of color have often been confined, have usually been the sites for preserving and defending the freedoms and rights stated in the country's founding documents when they were most severely challenged. The conceptual framework around which the book is organized and the historical roots of multicultural education are described in part 1. Part 2 presents case studies of individuals whose work exemplifies the contributions of multicultural education. In part 3, the work of women scholars and activists in transforming society is discussed. Part 4 describes the rise and fall of the intergroup education movement and research related to prejudice in the 1930s and 1940s. The final section, part 5, bridges the past and the present in describing the school reforms that are needed to promote educational equity and guidelines for changing schools to make them more consistent with a diverse and multicultural society. References follow each chapter. (Contains two figures and five tables.) (SLD)

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